



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL DENTAL CENTER
2310 CRAVEN ST.
BOX 368147
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92136-5596

NAVDENCENS DIEGO INST 6670.3D

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02 AUG 1995

NAVDENCEN SAN DIEGO INSTRUCTION 6670.3D

Subj: PROVISION OF ORTHODONTIC CARE AT NAVAL DENTAL CENTER,
SAN DIEGO

Ref: (a) BUMEDINST 6670.2

Encl: (1) Sample notification of chain of command letter
(2) Sample letter certifying orthodontic treatment
indication
(3) Flowchart

1. Purpose. To provide policy and guidelines for the provision of orthodontic care at Naval Dental Center, San Diego.

2. Cancellation. NAVDENCENS DIEGO INST 6670.3C.

3. Background. Navy and Marine Corps dental entrance standards disqualify individuals who require non-elective active orthodontic treatment at the time of acceptance for active duty. Elective orthodontic care, however, may be initiated on active duty personnel who have experienced atypical facial growth, facial/dental injuries or loss of proper masticatory function due to dental disease. Commencement or continuation of orthodontic treatment may also be advisable for family members who are residing in geographic locations where civilian orthodontic care is unavailable. The Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has authorized the Naval Dental Center, San Diego to provide orthodontic care for eligible beneficiaries. Because of the limited resources available for providing orthodontic care at this command, policy and guidelines are required to assist in the selection of patients for orthodontic treatment.

4. Policy. Per reference (a), orthodontic therapy will be provided as follows:

a. Active duty patients have first priority for initiation of orthodontic treatment.

b. Proposed long-term orthodontic treatment of personnel attached to deployable fleet units is usually not indicated for the following reasons:

(1) The long-term nature of orthodontic therapy (approximately 24 months active treatment time).



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(2) The requirements for adjustment of orthodontic appliances at regularly prescribed intervals.

(3) The significant negative impact on an individual's dental and overall health that may ensue when orthodontic care is not closely supervised and completed in a timely manner.

(4) The non-availability of orthodontic treatment for deployed fleet personnel.

c. An active duty patient or a patient's sponsor must have sufficient time remaining in his/her present assignment to have required treatment accomplished prior to transfer. The treatment interval will be determined by the treating orthodontist. Family members and retired military personnel should also have plans to remain in their present location to allow for sufficient time to complete treatment. The Navy cannot assume the responsibility for the continuation of orthodontic care should a patient transfer to an area where orthodontic care is not authorized in a Department of Defense facility.

5. Action

a. Cases for orthodontic or orthosurgical treatment shall be selected by an Orthodontic Evaluation Committee (OEC). This committee shall consist of an Oral Surgeon, Prosthodontist or Periodontist, and the command Orthodontist. It will meet periodically to consider all patients requesting orthodontic or orthosurgical treatment according to the provisions of reference (a). The committee will submit meeting minutes for approval by the Commanding Officer. Minor tooth movement cases (treatment less than nine months duration) shall be exempt from this requirement.

b. The examining orthodontist and the members of the Orthodontic Evaluation Committee shall abide by the guidelines provided in reference (a) when considering the initiation of orthodontic treatment on eligible patients. Enclosures (1) and (2) are sample letters that must be forwarded to the prospective active duty patient's chain of command upon initiation of orthodontic treatment. Enclosure (3) is a flowchart of this process.


R. C. MELENDEZ

Dist:
List I, Case 1, 2

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SAMPLE NOTIFICATION OF CHAIN OF COMMAND LETTER

From: Commanding Officer
To: CHBUPERS/CMC assignment
Via: Member's CO

Subj: PROPOSED INITIATION OF ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT ICO YN3 JOE
N. DOE, USN, 000-00-0000

Ref: (a) NAVMEDCOMINST 6670.1

Encl: (a) Statement from treating orthodontist

1. As directed by reference (a), this written notification is forwarded to indicate our plans to initiate elective orthodontic treatment on the subject service member who falls under your assignment authority. Treatment will be given unless we are advised that the SNM will be unavailable during necessary treatment interval.

2. Orthodontic care is highly sought after by many deserving Navy and Marine Corps members. Selections for treatment must be made with utmost concern for benefit to the individual and value to the Navy Department. Please advise us of any considerations that might influence the wisdom of this selection for elective treatment.

3. Enclosure (1) certifies that elective orthodontic treatment is indicated and projects the estimated time interval that orthodontic appliances will be utilized. According to information received from the service member, the orthodontic treatment is expected to be completed prior to any long-term deployment, change of duty station, or separation from active duty.

4. It is imperative that the availability of the individual be accurately and judiciously evaluated. If availability is questionable or other reasons exist for questioning treatment, please notify us immediately. My point of contact is:

(CO's signature or By direction)

Encl (1)

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SAMPLE LETTER CERTIFYING ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT INDICATION

DATE

ORTHODONTIST'S STATEMENT

Orthodontic treatment as an adjunct service association with orthognathic surgery is indicated in the case of:

HT1 Joe N. Doe, USN, 000-00-0000

The orthodontic treatment and orthognathic surgery are expected to require approximately ____ months. Based on EAOS/PRD information provided by the patient, this treatment should not create an assignment liability.

J. DOE, LCDR, DC, USN
STAFF ORTHODONTIST
(619) 524-5303/DSN 524-5303

Copy to:
Orthodontic Treatment Record

Encl (2)

ORTHODONTIC EVALUATION COMMITTEE
SELECTION PROCESSES

